



HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor: Randy Harris
Associate Pastor: Debbie Layman
Associate Pastor: Courtney Stevens
Pastor Emeritus: Steve McCutchan
Director of Christian Education: Heather Ferguson
Director of Music: Chris Gilliam
Organist: Susan Bates
Music Associate: Haley Chapman

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2380 Cloverdale Avenue
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

MAY 24, 2026 • PENTECOST SUNDAY

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 24, 2026

10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Come, God, Creator, Spirit

Maurice Duruflé

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Hear, people of God! God is speaking through winds and voices,

All: calling us to follow and serve.

One: See, people of God!

God is moving through the church and the world,

All: gifting us so we may love and lead.

One: Believe, people of God! God is working through all creation,

All: drawing us into the warmth of the spirit.

Let us worship God together!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 280

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

EBENEZER

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You cry out for us to open our hearts, O God,
but we keep them shielded from the power of your Spirit.

You call for us to open our minds,
but we prefer to stay with what we already know.

You long for us to open our ears,
but we shy away from the language of your grace.

Forgive us; heal us; embrace us, and wash us in your love.

Breathe your Spirit on us once more,
and move us to respond with lives of faithfulness.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

As we light candles
on the Retable,
place the Bible at
the Lectern, pour
water in the
Baptismal Font,
and set the
Communion Table,
we are reminded of
the presence of
Christ in Word
and Sacrament.

(* When this
symbol precedes an
element of the
service, you are
invited to rise
in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

Festival Alleluia

JAMES CHEPPONIS

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*A TIME OF SHARING GOD'S PEACE

*RESPONSE 301

All Are Welcome

TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

THE WORD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

Page 119

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:3b-12

Page 174

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Gifted for the Common Good

Debbie Layman

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 291

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

SPIRIT

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,

The good news of
God's forgiving
love calls for our
response of praise,
and for words of
peace and welcome
to one another.

Our song of
"welcome" affirms
our belief that the
risen Christ breaks
down the walls by
which we may
otherwise be
separated.

claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silences,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Penny Russ

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

Dan Locklair

Where affection and love abide, God is.
We are gathered in one body by the love of Christ.
Let us rejoice and be glad in him.
Let us fear and love the living God,
and from the heart let us love each other sincerely.

Where affection and love abide, God is.
When therefore we are gathered in one body,
let us be watchful that our minds not divide us.
Let hateful quarrels cease, let disputes cease
and in our midst let there be Christ our God.

Where affection and love abide, God is.
May we too, together with the blessed, see in glory your face,
O Christ our God; that is joy beyond measure and excellent,
through ages of ages without end. Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Hymn 245, stanza 4

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

The grace of God calls for a response! Our giving is offered in a spirit of gratitude for God's blessings.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

* HYMN 287

Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

NJOO KWETU

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: You have given yourself to us, O God.

All: Now we give ourselves for others.

One: You have sent your Holy Spirit and made us a gifted people.

All: May the gifts you give us enable us to serve you
and proclaim your good news with joy.

One: Your glory has filled our hearts.

All: Help us to glorify you in all things.

One: May the Holy Spirit fall upon us, encompass us, and support us.
May the Holy Spirit transform us, lead us, and equip us.
May the Holy Spirit give us encouragement, strength, and
comfort to serve and worship our Triune God
both now and forever.

All: Amen!

*RESPONSE (Hymn 750) *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil* GOODNESS IS STRONGER

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Service for the Lord's Day. The Church is called to follow its risen Lord into the world!

*POSTLUDE

Finale

Maurice Duruflé

WORSHIP NOTES

The Pentecost art installation fills the sanctuary with movement and color, using flowing streamers and a central dove to evoke the tongues of fire that descended on the disciples. This visual reminder of the Holy Spirit's presence invites us to imagine the rush of wind and the power of God's Spirit poured out on all people. The image on the bulletin cover, *Pentecost*, is by John August Swanson.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 24, please pray for Ruth Banbury; Brian, Mary, Mary Douglas and Caroline Mendenhall; Don and Sandra Mikush; Lew and Nancy Nelson; Ed and Emily Parker; Vance and Pam Pepper; Jay and Diane Plaisted; Ed and Margret Sehon. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

***Bless Our Neighbors!*—Our prayers for our community.** FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, please pray for our neighbors who provide mental healthcare and counseling for those in need: CareNet Counseling, Mental Health Association, and Trinity Center.

CALENDAR

Sunday May 24

- 9:00 a.m. The Present Word, Room 124
- 9:00 a.m. Deeper Dive: A Summer Series of Faith-Shaping Video Podcasts
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Shade, Patio

Monday May 25

Office Closed Memorial Day

Tuesday May 26

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Poverty Book Group, Salem Room

Wednesday May 27

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Room 100

Thursday May 28

- 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Ardmore Room
- 5:30 p.m. Moms of College Aged Kids Dinner, River Birch Lodge
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adults, Fiddlin' Fish

For more information about the events in this calendar, please pick up a copy of *Highlights*, the church newsletter, in the Narthex or Gallery Hall. Check www.highlandpres.org, for changes or cancellations.



WELCOME TO HIGHLAND

We extend a warm welcome to all who come to this sanctuary today. May you find in this place and among the people gathered here grace and peace from the living Christ who has promised to be present with us. To learn more about Highland, scan the QR code with your phone.

If you are visiting with us today, please include your contact information on the Visitor Card that you can find in the pew rack. You may place the card in the offering plate when it is passed. If you are a college or graduate school student, add your school name to the card as well.

Large-print Bibles, bulletins, and hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

A Loop Assisted Hearing System is in place in Highland's Sanctuary. You can access this service by switching your hearing aid's T-coil to "On" and adjusting the volume control if needed; you may also request a headset from an usher.

Childcare is available during the worship service. Children up to age five are welcome in Room 112 located on the first floor near the Chapel. During worship we also offer a room for Children & Parents, Room 216, which is a friendly childcare space near the Sanctuary where parents can tend to the needs of their child.

We offer online ways to give in addition to our traditional giving in the offering plate. To give via smart phone, you may text the word *highland* to 73256 or scan the QR code. We are thankful for your generous sharing!

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Matthew 25:31-46 calls

all of us to engage actively in the world around us, helping our faith come alive. As a Matthew 25 congregation we pledge to work on *building congregational vitality*, *dismantling structural racism*, and *eradicating systemic poverty*. Learn more at pcusa.org/matthew25.



We are an Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We pledge in our *worship* and discipleship to celebrate God's grace and glory in creation. Our *education* strives to encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation. We seek to manage, maintain, and upgrade our *facilities* to respect and cherish all creation, and our *outreach* will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.

LIFE AT HIGHLAND



Churchwide

Lemonade in the Shade: During the summer, following worship all are invited for fellowship and refreshing lemonade on the Narthex Patio. This is a wonderful, informal way to meet other Highlanders and greet visitors.

Highland Is Going Canoeing! Join us on May 30 for a Highland-family adventure with The Dan River Company. Ages 10 and up are welcome. Please only sign up if you know for certain that you will participate. Sign up online through a weekly email or by scanning our QR code below.

Highland's Annual Night Out at the Dash: June 3, 6:30 p.m.: Join us for this evening of great fellowship and possibly exciting baseball. Reserve your (\$12) tickets now.

Pride Festival Is Coming! Highland will have a booth and walk in the parade at Winston-Salem's Pride events this year. Plan to share in both by signing up with the QR code.

ArtRaegous: Signups are coming soon! We have a full and fun set of offerings once again! Please mark the dates on your calendar: June 22-25.

To sign up for meals, service work, and more, scan this QR code.



Service

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of May we are asking for donations of rice. Thanks!

Diaper Drive Through Father's Day! Our annual diaper drive, benefitting Shalom Project and Clemmons Food Pantry, runs

through June 21. We accept opened and unopened packages as well as adult diapers and baby wipes.



Children

Sunday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.

Children, join us in the PrayGround! This is a friendly space in the balcony for children ages 5 and up to worship while enjoying quiet and engaging activities such as puzzles, storybooks, and coloring sheets.



Youth

Quest for the Best: Pizza Begins May 31 at Mellow Mushroom. Youth are invited to meet following worship to taste our way across the city looking for the top slice.



Young Adults

Thursday Gathering May 28 7:00 p.m. at Fiddlin' Fish. Join us for the final Thursday gathering until the fall season.

Summer Cookout May 30 1:00 p.m. at the home of Grace and Patrick. Bring a dish to share.



Adults

Summer Sunday Church School Offerings:

9:00 a.m. *The Present Word*, Room 124

9:00 a.m. *Deeper Dive: A Summer Series of Faith-Shaping Video Podcasts*, Room 126

Coffee & Conversation,

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Camel City Coffee, 110 Oakwood Drive
Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. All are welcome!